

MASUYAMA et al.
Application No. 09/677,577
August 25, 2008

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

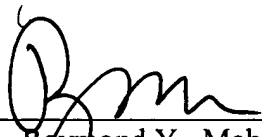
Currently, claims 7-8, 28-29 and 43-44 are pending in this application.

Claims 7-8, 28-29 and 43-44 are allowable. All other claims have been canceled, thereby rendering the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103 moot. Applicant submits that the cancellation of claims in the present Amendment/Response should not be construed as any admission on the propriety of the rejections and reserves the right to file a continuation application for the now-canceled claims.

If the Examiner has any questions or believes that an interview would further prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: 
Raymond Y. Mah
Reg. No. 41,426

RYM/dmw
901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor
Arlington, VA 22203
Telephone: (703)816-4044
Facsimile: (703)816-4100